THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of:

Lixiao Wang

Application No.:

09/940,558

Filed:

August 27, 2001

For:

MEDICAL DEVICES UTILIZING MELT-

PROCESSIBLE POLY

(TETRAFLUOROETHYLENE)

Examiner:

Not yet assigned

Group Art Unit:

3761

P.O. Box Non Fee Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

TRANSMITTAL LETTER

In regard to the above-identified application, we are submitting the attached: 4 Pg. Information Disclosure Statement; 1 Pg. 1449 Form; 7 Pg. publication entitled, 1. "Fluoropuolymer Breakthrough"; 33 Pg. International Application Published Under the PCT; 1 Pg. VAS Transmittal Letter; and Postcard.

With respect to fees: 2.

- No additional fee is required.
- Attached is check(s) in the amount of \$
- Charge additional fee to our Deposit Account No. 22-0350.

CONDITIONAL PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME 3. -

This conditional petition is being filed along with the papers identified in Item 1 above and provides for the possibility that Applicant has inadvertently overlooked the need for a petition and fee for extension of time or for a petition and fee for any other matter petitionable to the Commissioner as required. If any extension of time for the accompanying response is required or if a petition for any other matter is required, by petitioner, Applicant requests that this be considered a petition therefor.

Notwithstanding paragraph 2 above, if any additional fees associated with this communication are required and have not otherwise been paid, including any fee associated with the Conditional Petition for Extension 4. of Time, or any request in the accompanying papers for action which requires a fee as a petition to the Commissioner, please charge the additional fees to Deposit Account No. 22-0350. Please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment associated with this communication to the Deposit Account No. 22-0350.

By:

VIDAS, ARRETT & STEINKRAUS

November 28, 2001 Date:

William E. Anderson, II Registration No. 37,766

6109 Blue Circle Drive, Suite 2000 Minnetonka, MN 55343-9185 Telephone: (952) 563-3000

Facsimile: (952) 563-3001

Certificate Under 37 CFR 1.8: I hereby certify that this Transmittal Letter and the paper(s) as described herein, are being deposited in the U.S. Postal Service, as FIRST CLASS MAIL, addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box Non Fee, Washington D.C. 20231, on November 29, 2001

Robin Peddieson

PATENT

INVITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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JAN 1 6 2002

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JAN 23 Z002 3700 MAIL ROOM

Commissioner for Patent Washington, D.C. 20231

Docket No.: S63.2-9482

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Listed below or on an attached Form PTO-1449 and/or a copy of a PTO-892 form is information known to applicant(s). A copy of each listed publication, U.S. patent, foreign patent and U.S. patent application is being submitted herewith, along with a concise explanation of information in a foreign language, if any, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97-1.98, except that U.S. applications from which priority is claimed under 35 U.S.C. §120, and documents cited in such priority applications, may be omitted from the enclosures pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.98(d). Applicant's submission of copies of U.S. applications does not constitute a waiver of the confidentiality of such applications. As such, Applicant requests that any copies of unpublished US applications submitted herewith be excluded from the file wrapper pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.14.

Applicants respectfully request that the listed information be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the above-identified application. If form PTO-1449 or PTO-892 from a prior application is enclosed, the Examiner is requested to initial and return it in accordance with MPEP §609.

This statement is not intended to represent that a search has been made or that the information cited in the statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in



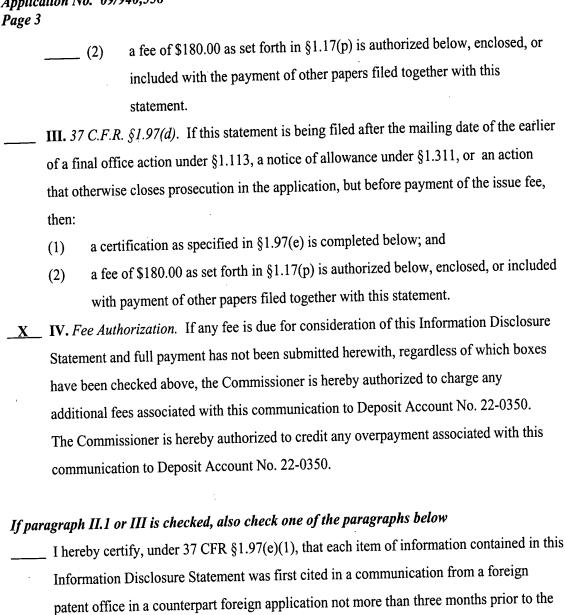
Information Disclosure Statement Application No. 09/940,558 Page 2

§1.56.

Applications that are listed on the accompanying modified form 1449 as related by priority are related by priority claim under 35 USC §120. Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.98(d), no copies of cited art in a previous application(s) to which priority was claimed need be submitted. Applicant is providing copies of the 1449 and/or 892 forms from these cases.

X	I. This statement qualifies as a no-fee Information Disclosure Statement under 37
C.F.R.	$\S1.97(b)$ or otherwise because to the knowledge of the undersigned attorney it is being
	heck all that apply):
-	\underline{X} (1) within 3 months of the filing date of the application (other than a CPA); or
	(2) within 3 months of entry of the national stage; or
	X (3) before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits;
	(4) before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a request for
	continued examination (RCE) under §1.114;
	(5) as part of a continued prosecution application (CPA); or
	(6) during the period of a suspension of action for a CPA under 37 C.F.R.
	§1.103(b).
	II. This statement is believed to require a fee or the submission of a certification under
	37 C.F.R. §1.97 (c) or otherwise. If this statement is being filed after the latest of: (1)
	three months beyond the filing date of a national application (other than CPA); (2) three
	months beyond the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in §1.491 in an
	international application; (3) the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits; (4) the
	mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination
	under §1.114; or (5) after the filing of a request for a continued prosecution application,
	but before the mailing date of the earlier of a final office action under §1.113, a notice of
	allowance under §1.311 or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application,
•	then:
	(1) a certification as specified in §1.97(e) is provided below; or

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I hereby certify, under 37 CFR §1.97(e)(2), that no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and to the knowledge of the person signing the statement after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement.

date of the filing of this information disclosure statement.

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For the purpose of this certification, Applicant considers the PCT International Search Authority to constitute a foreign patent office.

If this Information Disclosure Statement has been submitted without the appropriate box checked, Applicant requests that this Information Disclosure Statement be considered nevertheless if it is timely submitted under any of the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.97 or otherwise. Finally, if any petition is necessary to ensure consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement, Applicant requests that this be treated as such a petition.

Respectfully submitted,

VIDAS, ARRETT & STEINKRAJUS, P.A.

Date: November 28, 2001

William E. Anderson, II

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